

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-9 (cancelled).

10. (Previously amended) The construct of claim 21, wherein the promoter and terminator are adapted for expression of the hybrid polypeptide within starch of a monocot plant.

11. (Previously amended) The construct of claim 21, wherein the promoter and terminator are adapted for expression of the hybrid polypeptide within starch of a dicot plant.

Claim 12 (cancelled).

13. (Previously amended) An expression vector comprising the construct of claim 21.

14. (Previously amended) A cell transformed to comprise the construct of claim 21, said cell being capable of expressing said construct.

15. (Original) The cell of claim 14 which is a plant cell.

Claims 16-20 (cancelled).

21. (Currently amended) A recombinant nucleic acid construct comprising:

a) a promoter adapted to target expression of a payload polypeptide in a starch-containing tissue of a plant during starch formation;

b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a transit peptide ~~capable of translocating the payload polypeptide to an amyloplast~~ having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:34, SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, and SEQ ID NO:37 and being oriented 3' to the promoter;

c) a nucleic acid encoding a starch-encapsulating region from maize starch synthase having an amino acid sequence beginning at amino acid 292 of SEQ ID NO:21 and being oriented 3' to the transit peptide;

d) a nucleic acid encoding the payload polypeptide and being oriented either 5' or 3' to the starch-encapsulating region; and

e) a terminator sequence oriented 3' to the payload polypeptide;

wherein the construct directs expression of a hybrid polypeptide comprising the starch-encapsulating region and the payload polypeptide, said hybrid polypeptide being encapsulated within starch of the plant.